

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 2, 2025  
5:30 P.M.  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 110 NORTH 8TH STREET,  
GATESVILLE, TEXAS 76528**

AN OPEN MEETING WAS HELD CONCERNING THE FOLLOWING SUBJECTS:

1) **CALL TO ORDER** THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING AT **5:30 P.M.** THIS **2<sup>ND</sup> DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2025.**

2) **QUORUM CHECK/COUNCIL PRESENT:** Mayor Gary Chumley, Mayor Pro-Tem Greg Casey, Councilmembers Kalinda Westbrook, Aaron Smith, Meredith Rainer, and John Salter.

**CITY STAFF PRESENT:** City Manager Brad Hunt, City Secretary Holly Owens, Deputy City Manager/Finance Director Mike Halsema, Shea Harp, Chad Newman, Seth Phillips, and Chief Clark.

**OTHERS:** Travis VanBibber.

3) **INVOCATION:** Jon Salter and **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Led by Mayor Gary Chumley.

CITIZENS/PUBLIC COMMENTS FORUM: INDIVIDUALS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE GATESVILLE CITY COUNCIL MAY DO SO DURING THIS SEGMENT. IF YOU INTEND TO COMMENT ON A SPECIFIC AGENDA ITEM, PLEASE INDICATE THE ITEM(S) ON THE SIGN IN SHEET BEFORE THE MEETING. EACH SPEAKER IS ALLOTTED A MAXIMUM OF 3 MINUTES FOR THEIR REMARKS, AND SPEAKERS ARE EXPECTED TO CONDUCT THEMSELVES IN A RESPECTFUL MANNER. IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TEXAS OPEN MEETINGS ACT, THE CITY OF GATESVILLE CITY COUNCIL CANNOT DELIBERATE OR ACT ON ITEMS NOT LISTED ON THE MEETING AGENDA.

There were no public comments.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

4) Discussion and possible action to amend Chapter 18 – Fee Schedule.

Mr. Hunt explained the only changes from the last reading were the cemetery fee from the proposed \$500.00 to \$250.00 and the civic center deposit to a proposed \$600.00 and \$750.00 with alcohol.

**ORDINANCE 2025-17:** Kalinda Westbrook motioned, seconded by Greg Casey to **PASS ORDINANCE 2025-17** to consider repealing and replacing Chapter 18. “Fees”, Section 18-1. “Fee Schedule” of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Gatesville to the next meeting, **second reading**. All five voting “Aye”, motion passed, 5-0-0 (Patterson).

5) Discussion and possible action regarding approval of Ordinance 2025-19 levying a tax rate for Fiscal Year 2025-2026.

**ORDINANCE 2025-19:** Aaron Smith motioned, seconded by Meredith Rainer to **PASS the tax rate ordinance** to the third reading which is scheduled for September 9, 2025. All five voting “Aye”, motion passed, 5-0-0 (Patterson).

6) Recess Special Meeting and call a Public Hearing.

Mayor Chumley opened the public hearing at 5:35 pm.

Brad Hunt gave a brief presentation.

The contract with Billy Vaden as a volunteer is for \$50,000 annually, flat fee with no retirement (TMRS). The new position would be negotiated to include retirement and up to \$100,000 annually as a city employee.

Councilwoman Rainer asked about the process for choosing/hiring the new chief and how will the volunteer fire department be part of that process.

Mr. Hunt explained the volunteers would choose four to represent the entire group to aid in the process of hiring a chief.

There were no public comments.

Mayor Chumley closed the public hearing at 6:09 pm.

7) Discussion and possible action regarding Ordinance 2025-18, adopting the budget for Fiscal Year 2026.

**ORDINANCE 2025-18:** Meredith Rainer motioned, seconded by Jon Salter, we **PASS** this ordinance to the **third reading** which is scheduled for September 9, 2025. All five voting "Aye", motion passed, 5-0-0 (Patterson).

City Council **adjourned at 6:11 p.m.**

  
Mayor, Gary Chumley

ATTEST:

  
City Secretary, Holly Owens

